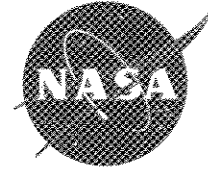


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 23, 2011

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA employees at a Reception hosted by will.i.am on November 26, 2011

The musician William James Adams, Jr, popularly known by his stage name will.i.am, is sponsoring a reception at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC), Building OSBII, on or around November 26, 2011, from 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, following the launch of the Mars Science Laboratory (MSL). This reception is being held in conjunction with and to complement activities at KSC the same day organized by SYSTEM, an initiative supported by Mr. Adams for “Stimulating Youth in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math.”

Approximately 300 people have been invited to attend this reception. Expected attendees include NASA and Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) personnel, including the MSL mission team, teachers, librarians and other educators, representatives from industry and museum affiliates. The reception will include food and beverages valued at approximately \$27 per person. In accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g), and 14 C.F.R. § 1207.103, I find that the event meets the definition of a “widely attended gathering.”

I further find that there is an agency interest in NASA employees attending this event. In addition to providing NASA personnel with an opportunity to discuss NASA’s programs and plans with other attendees from various sectors, the event will provide teachers, librarians and other educators who work with children with the opportunity to exchange views and information with the NASA MSL mission team and others who directly support the MSL mission, and so to pass on the information they obtain to their classrooms and schools. Accordingly, NASA employees – including NASA employees in non-career positions for which they are required to sign an ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490 – who have been invited to attend (and their guests, if invited) may accept free attendance at the event.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "A" and "G".

Adam F. Greenstone